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IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Otober Term, 1971

No. 71-1082

REUBIN O'D. ASKEW, ET AL.,
vs. *Appellants*

THE AMERICAN WATERWAYS
OPERATORS, INC., ET AL.,
Appellees

ON APPEAL FROM THE UNITED STATES
DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

BRIEF OF THE STATE OF TEXAS AS
AMICUS CURIAE

CRAWFORD C. MARTIN
Attorney General of Texas

NOLA WHITE
First Assistant

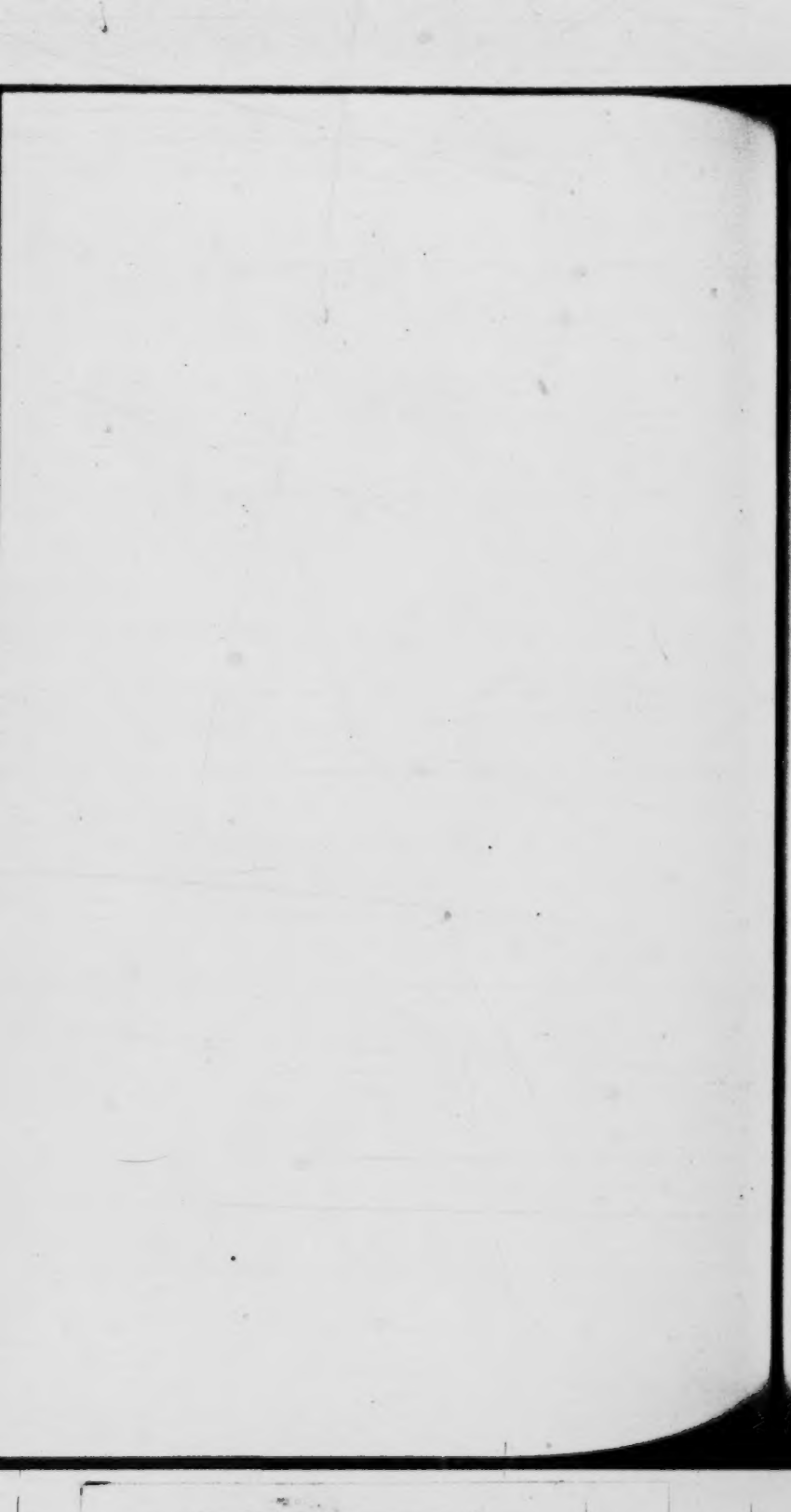
ALFRED WALKER
Executive Assistant

HOUGHTON BROWNLEE, JR.
Assistant Attorney General

JOHN MILTON RICHARDSON
Assistant Attorney General

*Attorneys for Amicus Curiae
The State of Texas*

Box 12548, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711



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INTEREST OF AMICUS CURIAE

The State of Texas has a coastline on the Gulf of Mexico of about 374 miles and a shoreline of about 1,000 miles on the bays and inlets of the Gulf of Mexico. The State of Texas owns 2,888,000 acres of land in its territorial waters in the Gulf of Mexico and 1,516,970 acres of land in its bays and inlets adjoining the Gulf of Mexico. (Figures from the General Land Office of Texas.)

Three major industries of the coastal area of Texas are tourist and recreational, fishing, and oil and gas. The value of the out-of-state automobile tourist busi-

ness to the coastal area of the State of Texas alone was over \$326,000,000 in 1971 (Texas Visitor Industry, 1971, compiled and published by Texas Highway Department, Travel and Information Division). The value of commercial landings of fish in Texas ports for 1971 was over \$70,037,000 (Fisheries of the United States, 1971, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service). The monthly value from oil and gas royalties payable to the State of Texas is approximately \$900,000 from bay production and \$200,000 from Gulf of Mexico production (Figures from General Land Office).

Because of the State of Texas' concern with the protection and preservation of its coastal waters, and the health and welfare of its people who live not only in proximity to them but also who live in the rest of the State and depend upon the Texas coastal region for recreation and sustenance, the State of Texas respectfully files this brief as *amicus curiae*.

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

The State of Texas adopts the Questions Presented in the brief of the State of Georgia as *amicus curiae*.

ARGUMENT

The State of Texas adopts the argument contained in the brief of the State of Georgia as *amicus curiae*.

CONCLUSION

The State of Texas prays the Court to grant the relief prayed for by the State of Florida in its brief.

Respectfully submitted,

CRAWFORD C. MARTIN
Attorney General of Texas

NOLA WHITE
First Assistant

ALFRED WALKER
Executive Assistant

HOUGHTON BROWNLEE, JR.
Assistant Attorney General

John Milton Richardson

JOHN MILTON RICHARDSON
Assistant Attorney General

*Attorneys for Amicus Curiae
The State of Texas*

Box 12548, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711